

(d) In every instance in which a law enforcement officer or a member of the State's Attorney's office shall inform the said property clerk that that said property is required to be retained by such officer for the time being for the purpose of investigating crime or for use as evidence in the trial of a criminal case, the said clerk shall, after duly registering said property, return same to the officer for such use. All property thus returned to any officer shall, after having served its purpose for investigation or as evidence, be redelivered to the clerk who shall thereupon give a receipt for same.

(e) It shall be the duty of the property clerk to return any property in his possession to its rightful owner at any time, upon satisfactory evidence of ownership and after obtaining proper receipt therefor; provided, however, that no property shall be so returned without having first obtained the approval of the State's Attorney of the county, and confiscated property shall be returned to owner only on order of the Court.

(f) The property clerk shall file with the County Commissioners on the first Tuesday of July in each year a report in writing, under oath, of all the property in his possession as of the last day of the preceding June, and which has not been theretofore returned to the proper owner under authority from the State's Attorney. The said report shall give in detail all information concerning each item of property as same appears on the record book which he is required to keep.

(g) The County Commissioners shall refer said report to their attorney for study and advice as to the appropriate lawful distribution to be made of each item of property listed in said report and the said attorney shall advise the Commissioner to direct the clerk to make such disposition of each item as may appear to be lawful and appropriate either by sale, destruction or otherwise.

(h) Any person violating the provisions of this section shall upon conviction thereof, be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and subject to a fine of not more than One Hundred (\$100.00) Dollars for each such violation.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted*, That this Act shall take effect June 1, 1945.

Approved April 27, 1945.

CHAPTER 828.

(House Bill 695)

AN ACT to add a new section to Article 15 of the Code of Public Local Laws of Maryland (1930 Edition), title "Kent